

REMARKS

In the July 12, 2004, fifth Office Action in this application, the United States Patent and Trademark Office withdrew the rejection of Claims 1-19 and amended independent Claims 1, 5, 9, and 14, incorporating the subject matter of Claims 4, 8, 12, and 17. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11, and 14-16, and 18-19, were viewed to be allowable. Applicant has further amended independent Claims 1, 5, 9, and 14, to clarify the subject matter of the claimed invention.

Applicant submits that all of the claims in the present are clearly patentably distinguishable over the teachings of the cited and applied references. Reconsideration and re-examination of the application and allowance of the claims are solicited. If the Examiner has any remaining questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's undersigned attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date:

August 10, 2004

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